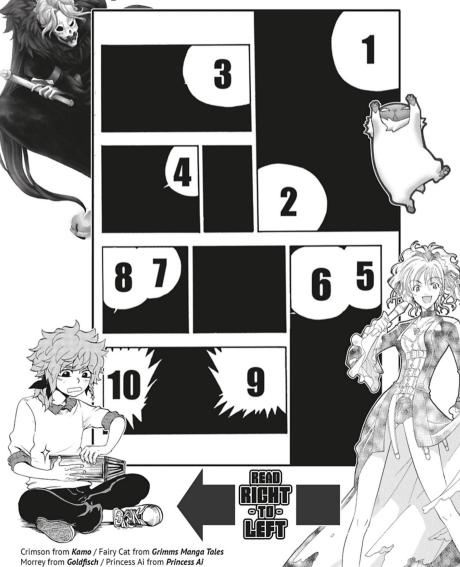


STOP

THIS IS THE BACK OF THE BOOK!

How do you read manga-style? It's simple! Let's practice -- just start in the top right panel and follow the numbers below!





TOKYOPOP believes all types of romances deserve to be celebrated. LOVE x LOVE was born from that idea and our commitment to representing variety of stories and voices a diverse as our fans.



















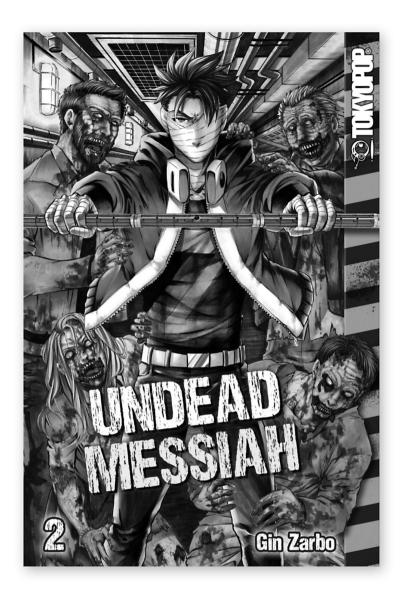








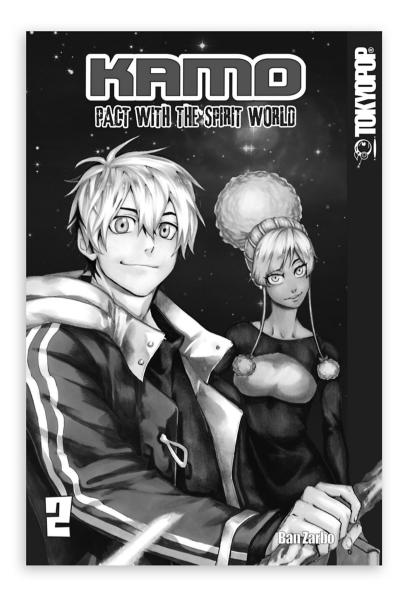
UNDEAD MESSIAH, VOLUME 2



ACTION



Tim Muley has had a hell of a week: stumbling onto a horde of walking dead, rescuing a baby, escaping the military, and then watching his infected father get murdered by the man everyone else calls a saint. Now, kidnapped by that very same "savior," Tim finds himself surrounded by loyal apostles with unbelievable powers, flesh-eating zombies, and the kind of scientific conspiracy he couldn't have imagined in his wildest nightmares. Who is this secretive, bandaged antihero? What is the truth behind the zombie virus? And what does it have to do with a fantasy-prone teenage gamer?



FANTASY

After making a pact with the spirit Crimson to heal his deadly heart condition, Kamo must defeat and capture twelve spirits in order to complete his side of the bargain. That's no small task, and lately spirits have been hard to come by, disappearing before Kamo can capture them. Thankfully, Shokola has just the spell in mind to curse Kamo as an Obscuro Magnético — a magnet for all things phantasmal — making him the center of attention for otherworldly creatures and bringing them straight to him. Surely nothing can go wrong with this plan...





SUPERNATURAL



After barely escaping from the Beyond, an alternate dimension swarming with bloodthirsty monsters, high-schoolers Yamagishi and Sendo realize their lives aren't going back to normal anytime soon. Determined to delve deeper into the secrets of the Beyond, they team up with the mysterious paranormal investigator Akisato, under whose grudging guidance they begin to uncover a world of occult sects and black magic.

Misaki, Momochi & Sando



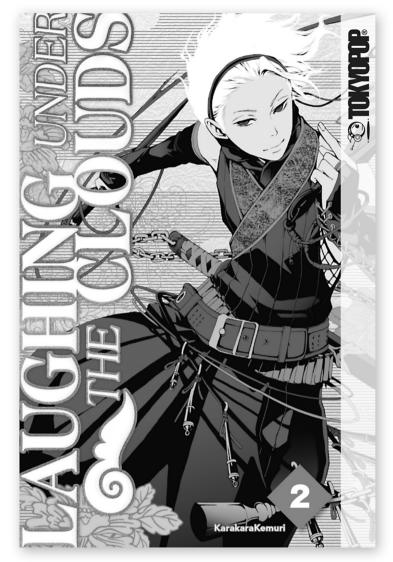
ADVENTURE

After their first successful adventure together, Lizel has officially formed a party with his guard and companion, the famous adventurer Gil. Lizel's charming personality has earned him a few friends by now, among them a young appraiser named Judge, the grandson of a rich merchant from the mercantile capital of Marcade. When he asks them to accompany him as guards on a trip to visit his grandfather, Lizel happily accepts the opportunity to sightsee and explore in such a famous country. Gil, on the other hand, is more excited about seeing if there are any super-strong monsters to fight in Marcade's Labyrinth. It's time for the newly-formed party to prove their mettle!



LAUGHING UNDER THE CLOUDS, VOLUME 2

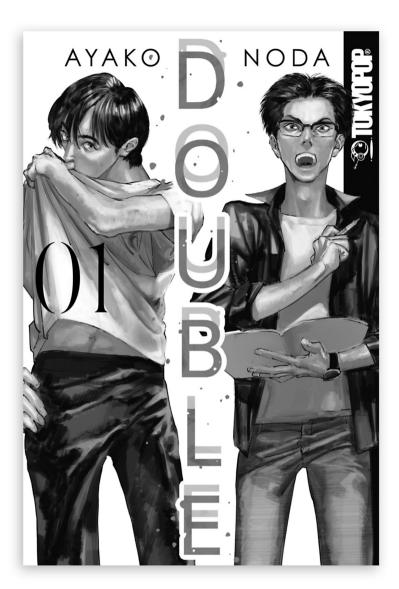
KarakaraKemuri



FANTASY



A dreaded murderer intrudes on the Kumo family's peace and brings with him news of an ancient calamity: Orochi. As Soramaru realizes his elder brother Tenka has been hiding things from him, he begins to look to outside sources to help him become stronger. At the same time, still other outside forces begin to reach out to Tenka for his knowledge of this ancient evil. The race to find and control Orochi's vessel begins!



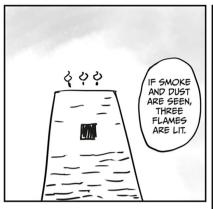
DRAMA

Scatterbrained Takara Takarada is an undiscovered genius actor who fully embodies every character he's cast as, delivering unforgettable performance after performance onstage. But this genius can only be brought forth by his best friend and fellow actor, Yuujin Kamoshima, who cares for Takara even as he envies him for his innate talent. When it takes the two of them together to bring a character to life, what will happen when Takara is scouted away from their small-time theater troupe and thrust into the new world of television instead?



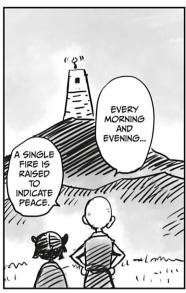
THE SPARROWS FLY, INTO THE SKY, AND IN THE SKY, GIRLS LAY WHITE FELT BY. ON THE FELT, GOLD PILES HIGH!

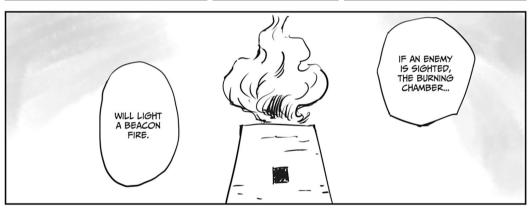
BALLAD OF THE SPARROWS

























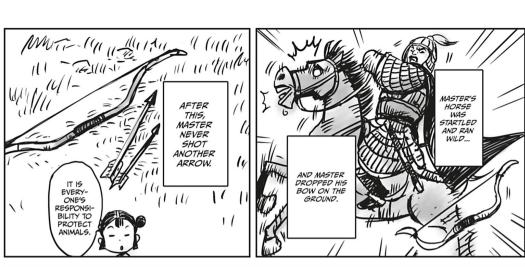












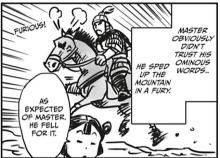
























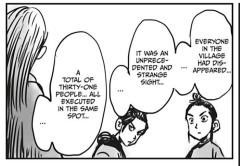




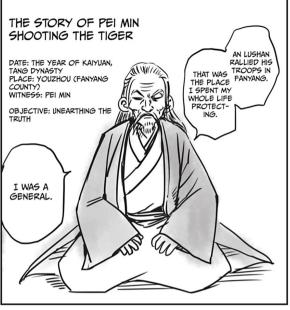










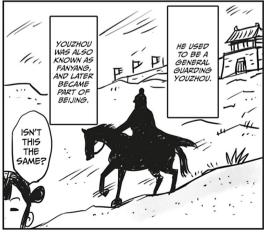








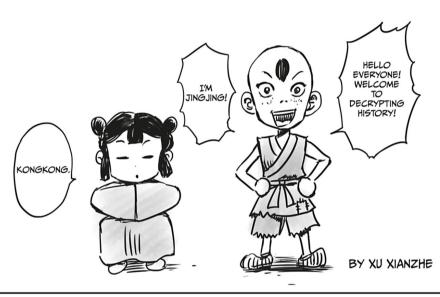






DECRYPTING HISTORY

*THIS SEGMENT WILL BREAK THE FOURTH WALL. PLEASE DO NOT TAKE IT TO BE FACT.







BONUS CONTENT

Decrypting History



RECENTLY, I HAVE HEARD NEWS OF AN LUSHAN'S REBELLION. EVERYONE IS IN A FRENZY BECAUSE OF IT.

THERE ARE ORDERS FROM THE IMPERIAL COURT TO EXECUTE AN LUSHAN'S ELDEST AN QINGZONG, WHO RESIDES IN CHANG'AN. THEY HAVE ALSO OPENED THE IMPERIAL TREASURY AND AMASSED 110,000 SOLDIERS FROM THE CAPITAL. THESE SOLDIERS HAVE BEEN CALLED THE HEAVENLY TROOPS AND THEY ARE HEADED TO DEFEND THE EASTERN COUNTRY, LUOYANG.

A NUMBER OF PROMINENT GENERALS HAVE BEEN SUMMONED TO QUASH THE REBELLION, INCLUDING YOUR CLOSE FRIENDS: MILITARY GENERAL GAO XIANZHI, MILITARY GOVERNOR OF ANXI FENG CHANGQING, AND MILITARY GOVERNOR OF SHUOFANG GUO ZIYI.... PEOPLE ARE SAYING THAT WITH SO MANY CAPABLE GENERALS LEADING THE TROOPS, IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE THE CAPITAL'S TROOPS RETURN WITH AN LUSHAN'S HEAD IN TOW. HOWEVER, I AM WORRIED AS THE HEAVENLY TROOPS WERE GATHERED ON A SHORT NOTICE. THE MAJORITY OF THEM HAVE GROWN UP IN THE CITY AND LIKE ME, THEY HAVE NEVER SEEN THE BATTLEFIELD. THEY ARE HOT-BLOODED, BUT THEY HAVE NO BATTLE EXPERIENCE. THE REBEL ARMY ARE MADE UP OF SOLDIERS WHO HAVE SPENT MANY YEARS FIGHTING AT THE BORDER. THEY KILL WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELID. EVEN IF OUR NUMBERS ARE EQUAL AND WE HAVE GREAT GENERALS AT THE FOREFRONT, IT WILL BE A TOUGH BATTLE. I HOPE MY WORRIES DO NOT COME TRUE.

I HAVE BEEN TRYING GET WORD REGARDING THE WHEREABOUTS OF MONK JIANZHEN, BUT COMMUNICATIONS HAVE BEEN CUT OFF. I AM UNABLE TO FIND OUT IF MONK JIANZHEN AND THE BUDDHA'S RELICS HAVE REACHED JAPAN SAFELY. I ALSO DESPERATELY WANT TO MEET YOU AGAIN, BUT I HEARD THAT YOU HAVE ALREADY LEFT CHANG'AN TO WANDER THE WORLD. NOBODY KNOWS WHERE YOU ARE. THE CHAOS OF WAR ENVELOPING US MAKES ME EVEN MORE WORRIED FOR YOUR SAFETY.

I PRAY FOR THE TANG AND I PRAY FOR MONK JIANZHEN, I ALSO PRAY FOR YOU.

I DON'T KNOW WHERE TO SEND THIS LETTER, SO I'M KEEPING IT ON MY PERSON FOR NOW. PLEASE TAKE CARE.

-CHAO HENG (ABE NO NAKAMARO)



THE PLACE I HAD DRIFTED TO WHEN I LAST WROTE TO YOU TURNED OUT TO BE A COUNTRY SOUTH OF THE TANG, CALLED ANNAM. WHEN WE REVEALED OUR IDENTITIES TO THE LOCALS IN A BID TO ASK FOR HELP, WE WERE ATTACKED BY A MYSTERIOUS GROUP OF PEOPLE. AS A RESULT, MOST OF THE HUNDRED-OR-SO PEOPLE ON OUR SHIP WERE KILLED. ONLY LORD FUJIWARA NO KIYOKAWA, A FEW SOLDIERS, AND I MANAGED TO ESCAPE FROM THAT HELL.

HOWEVER, THOSE MEN CONTINUED TO CHASE US RELENTLESSLY, AND SO WE HAD TO EKE OUT A LIVING IN A FOREIGN LAND WHILE ON THE RUN FROM THESE MURDERERS. I THINK THEY HEARD THAT OUR SHIP WAS SECRETLY TRANSPORTING THE BUDDHA'S RELICS AND ASSUMED THAT WE HAD THEM ON US. THIS SHOULD'VE BEEN A SECRET; ORDINARY PEOPLE WOULD NOT HAVE KNOWN ABOUT THIS. COULD THEY HAVE RECEIVED ORDERS FROM THE GOLDEN TURTLES? I'M NOT CERTAIN BUT I KNOW THERE MUST BE SOME RELATION.

WHILE ON THE RUN, THE ONLY THING THAT KEPT ME GOING WAS THE BEAUTIFUL MEMORIES I HAP OF THE PAST. BUT GRADUALLY, THE MEMORIES BEGAN TO FADE, AND THERE WERE MANY THINGS I NO LONGER REMEMBERED. IT IS SAID THAT PROOF OF A PERSON'S EXISTENCE IN THIS WORLD COMES FROM THE COMBINATION OF THEIR OWN MEMORIES AND THE MEMORIES OF OTHERS OF THEM. IN A FOREIGN LAND WHERE NOBODY KNEW ME, IN A STRANGE PLACE WITH THIS LANGUAGE BARRIER, I STARTED TO FORGET MY PAST AND GROW NUMB.

NOW, I HAVE FINALLY BEGUN TO REMEMBER WHO I AM. ALAS, CHANG'AN IS NO LONGER THE CHANG'AN I ONCE KNEW.



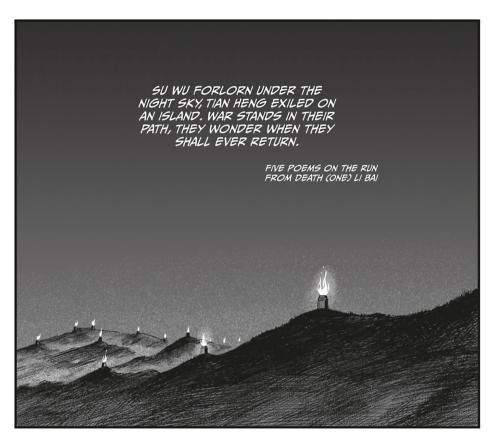
I WONDER WHERE YOU ARE, NOW THAT THE WORLD IS OVERRUN BY WAR... AFTER TRAVELLING FOR A YEAR AND A HALF, I HAVE NOW RETURNED TO CHANG'AN. THE REASON I AM ONLY WRITING THIS LETTER NOW IS BECAUSE I DID NOT DARE TO RECOLLECT THE HORRORS I HAVE EXPERIENCED UP TILL THIS POINT. ONLY WHEN I RETURNED DID I DISCOVER THAT NEWS OF MY SHIPWRECK HAD SPREAD TO THE WHOLE OF CHANG'AN AND ALL MY FRIENDS THOUGHT ME DEAD. HENCE, WHEN THEY SAW ME, IT WAS AS IF THEY WERE SEEING A GHOST.

PERHAPS THE OLD ME REALLY DID DIE IN THAT VAST OCEAN. THE CURRENT ME SEEMS TO HAVE BECOME A TERRIFYING GHOST, WANDERING A LONG, LONG NIGHTMARE.

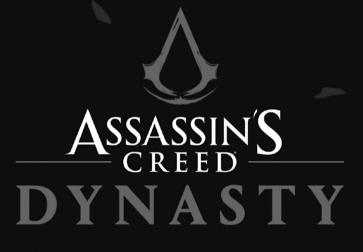
I HAVE FORGOTTEN HOW TO LAUGH. SOMETIMES, I WANT TO CRY YET THERE ARE NO TEARS.

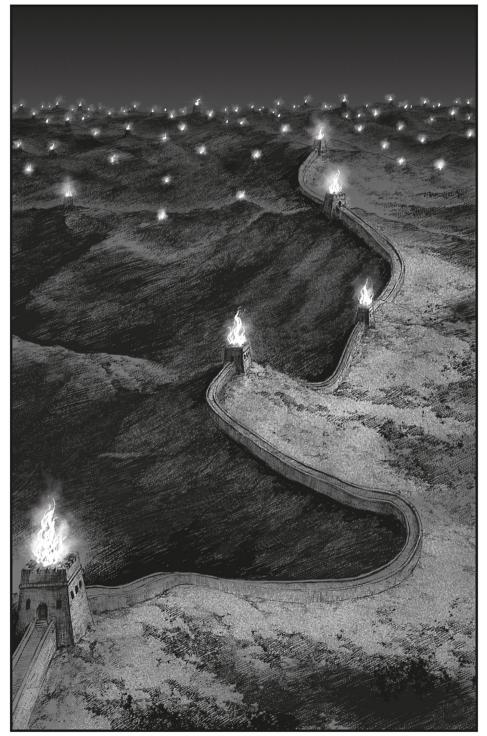
I LIVE IN ENDLESS ANXIETY AND FEAR, OFTEN STARTLING AWAKE AT NIGHT. THE FAMILIAR ROOM HAS TURNED STRANGE. I'M AFRAID OF MEETING OTHERS. WHEN FRIENDS COME TO VISIT, I SHUT MYSELF IN. I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG I CAN CONTINUE LIKE THIS.

IT WAS ONLY AFTER I READ THE POEM YOU WROTE LAMENTING MY DEATH THAT I FINALLY LOST CONTROL AND WEPT. THAT IS WHY I HAVE MUSTERED THE COURAGE TO PICK UP MY BRUSH.

















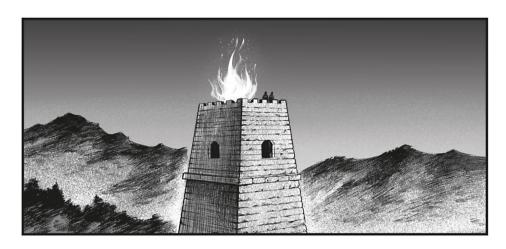






IT WILL KEEP BURNING TILL THE PRAIRIES ARE SET ALIGHT.



















































































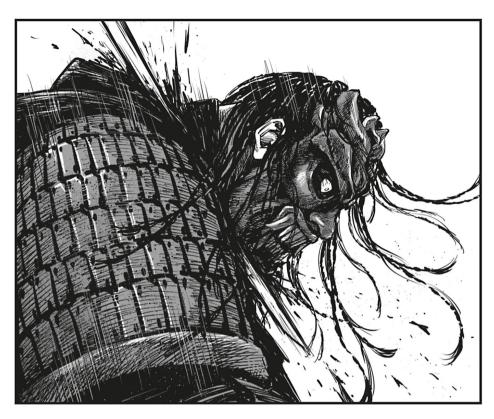






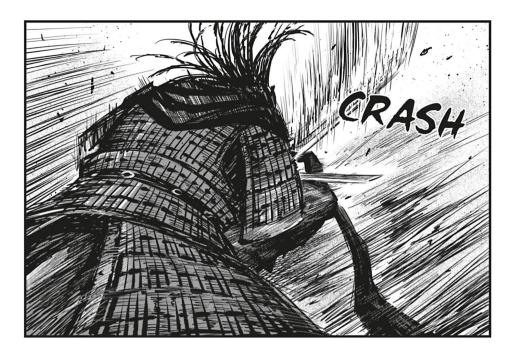












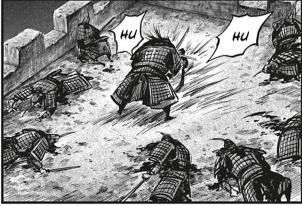






















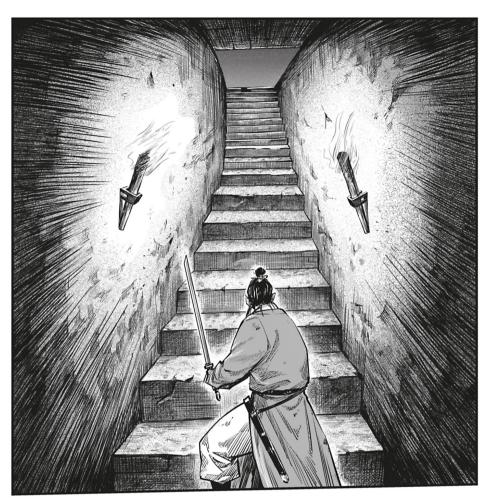
























































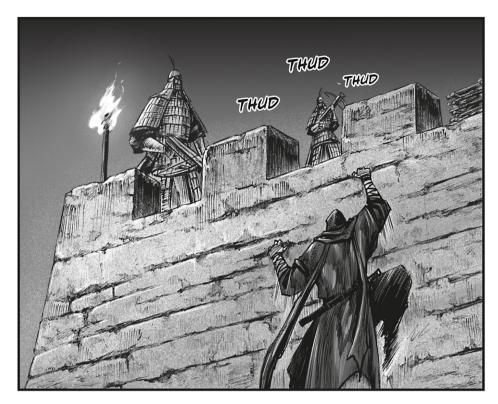














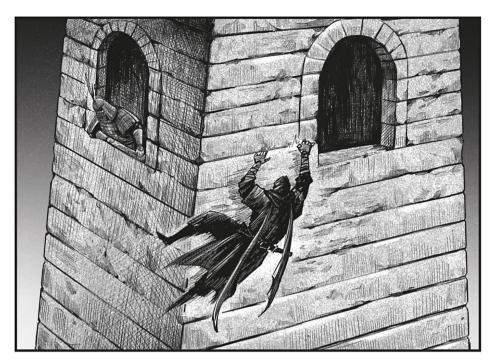












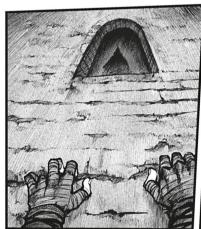


























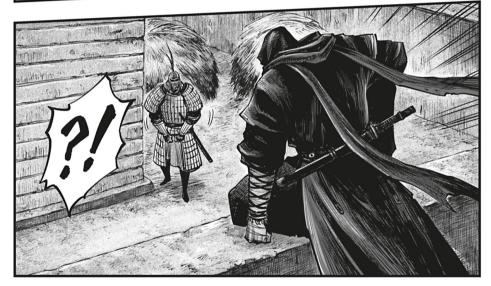


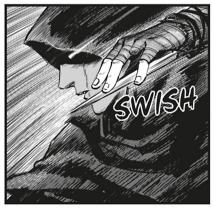






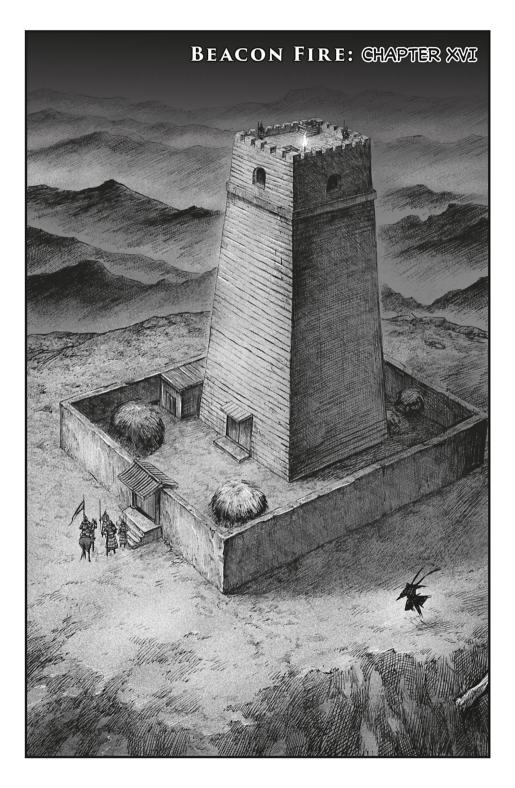










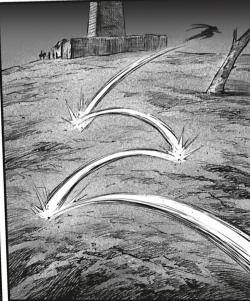


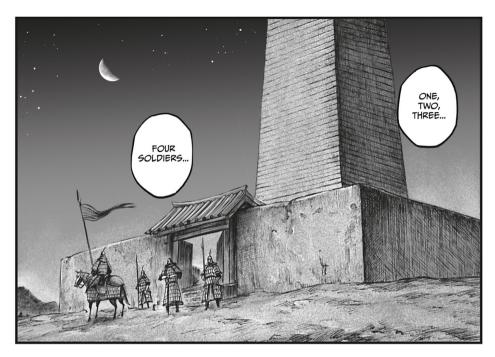














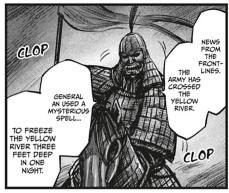














































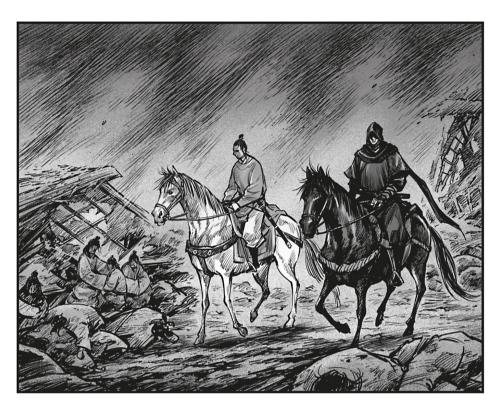
* PEACE FIRE: DURING THE TANG DYNASTY, A SINGLE FLAME LIT ON THE BEACON TOWER SIGNIFIES PEACE.

























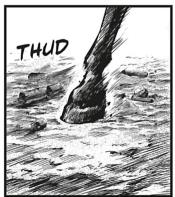














































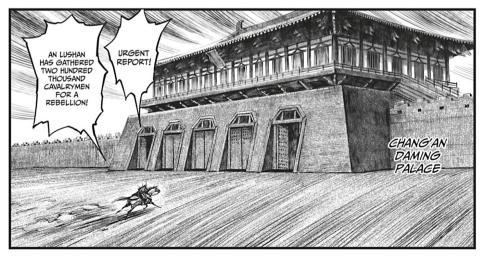


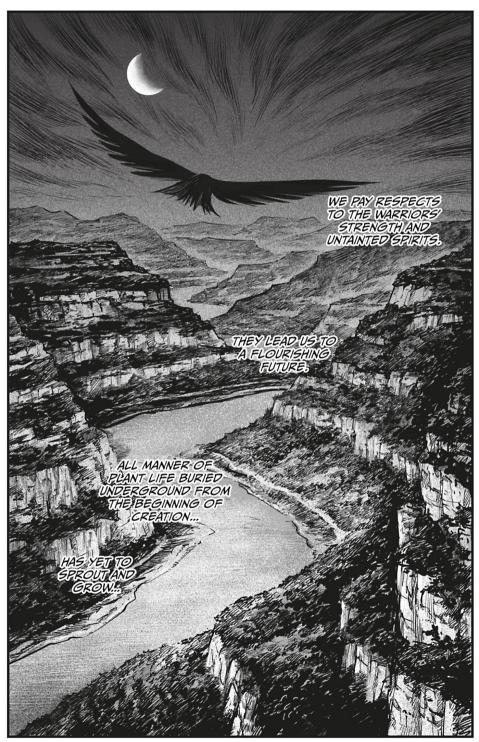




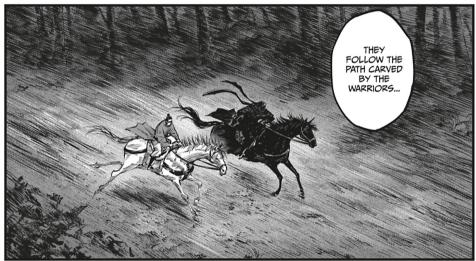


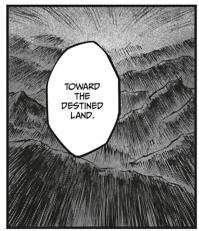




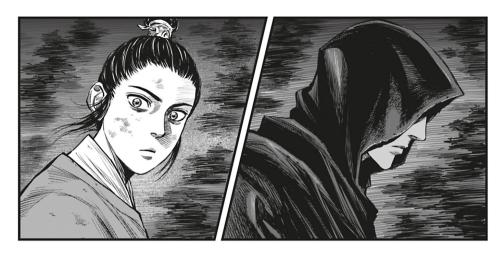












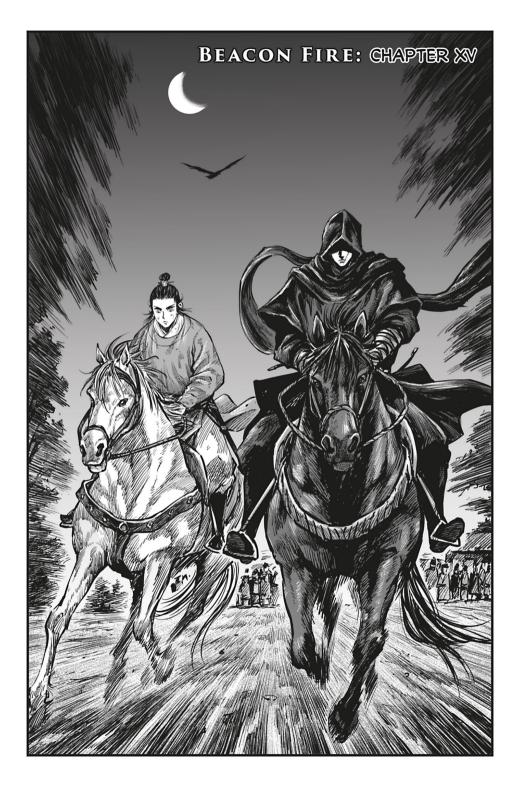














































* HUNTING GENERALS: THE TITLE OF LOWLY RANKYED MILITARY OFFICIALS IN THE TANG DYNASTY. THEY ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR INFILTRATION MISSIONS AND CAPTURING OF WAR PRISONERS.





















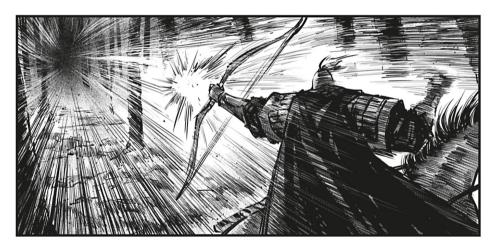






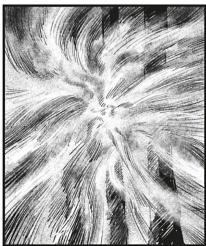






















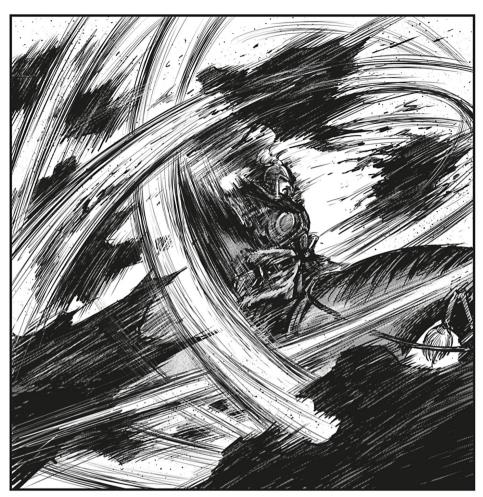










































































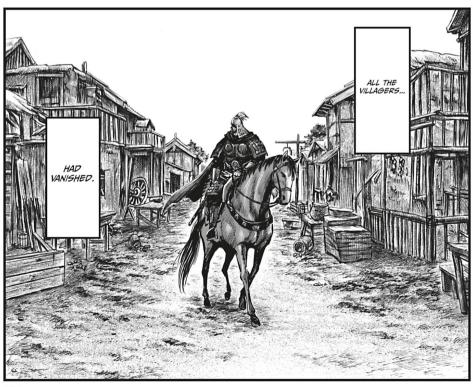












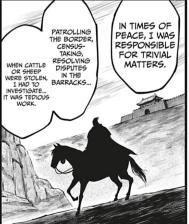




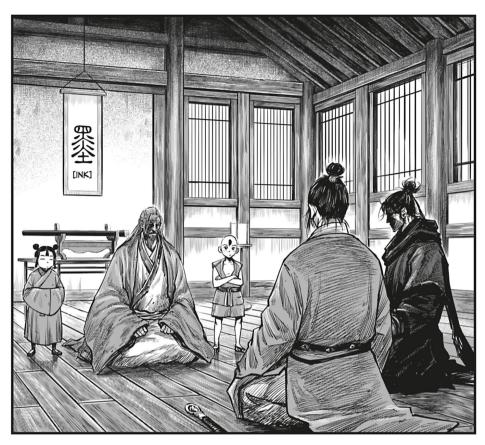






















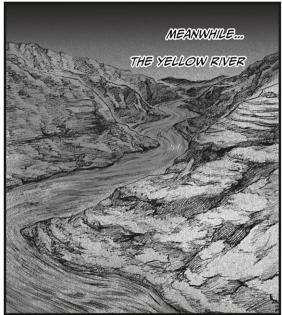


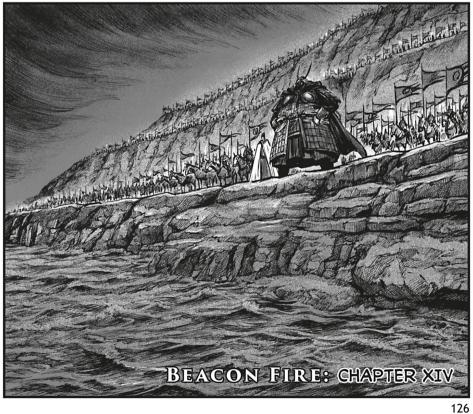


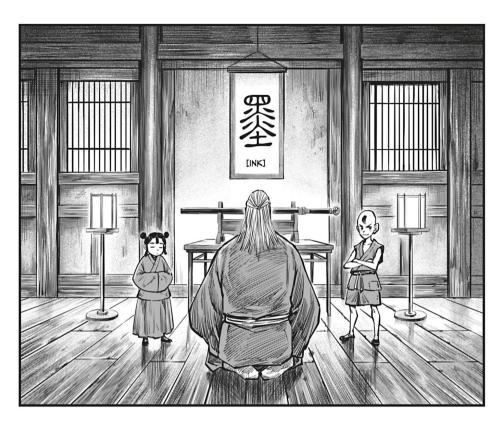
























































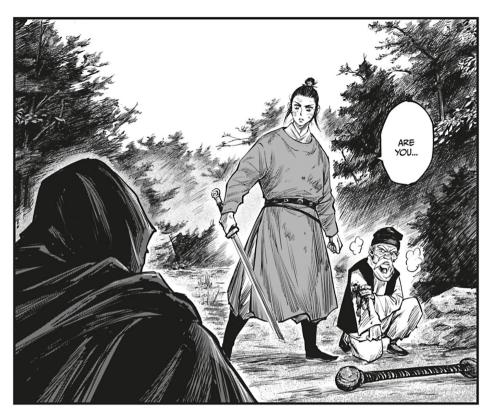


















































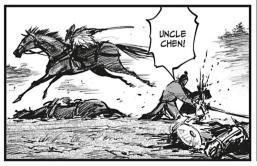














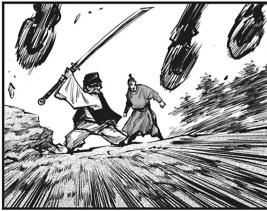
























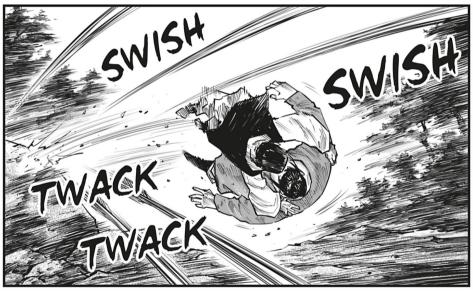


















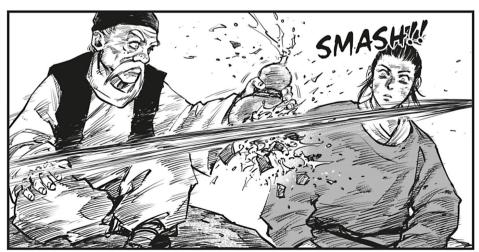
















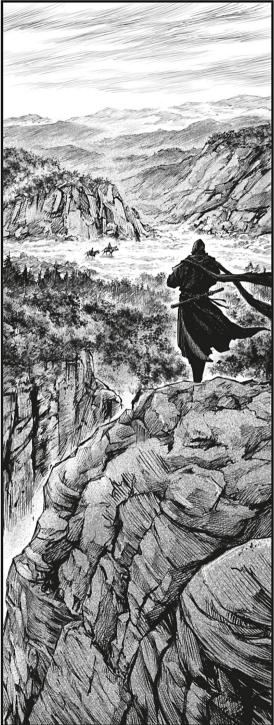


















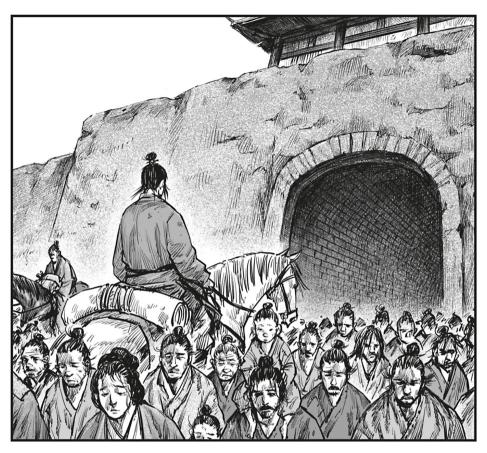


































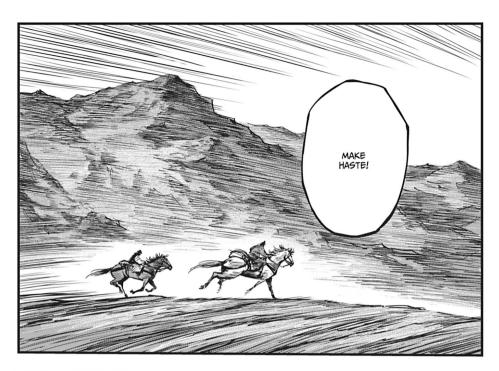






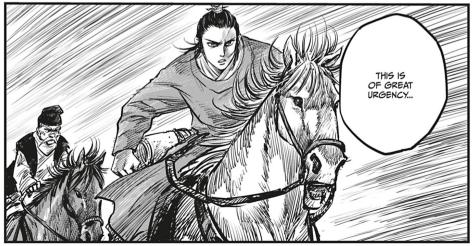














































































































































* PURPLE ROBES: DURING THE TANG DYNASTY, THE RANKS OF OFFICIALS WHERE INDICATED BY THE COLORS OF THEIR ROBES. PURPLE ROBES WERE FOR THOSE OF THE THIRD RANK AND ABOVE.















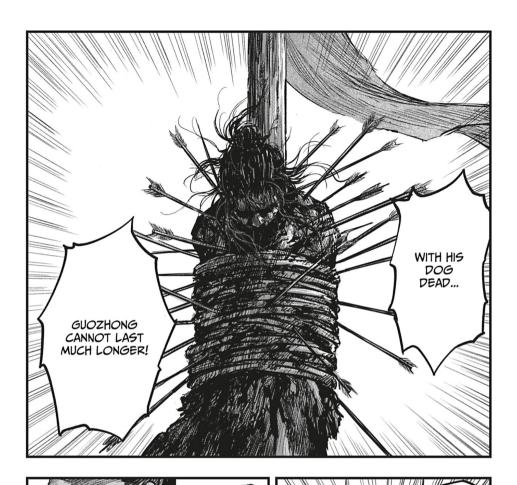






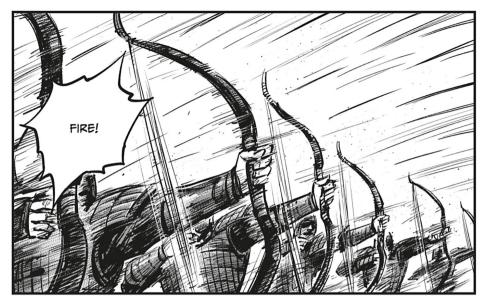




























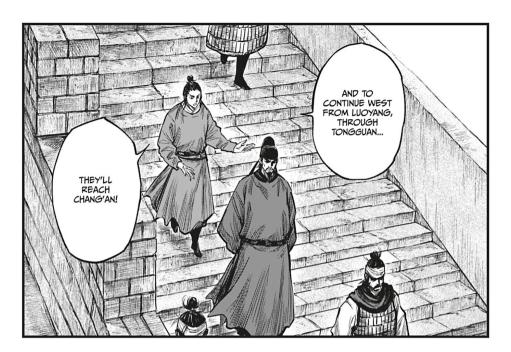




















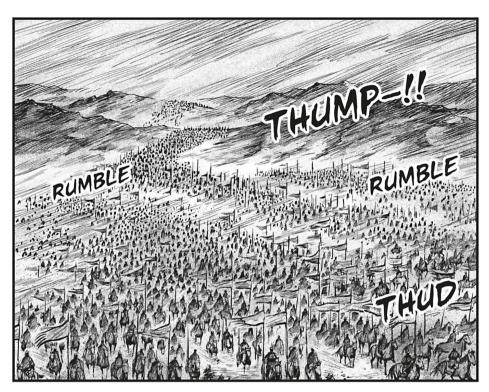










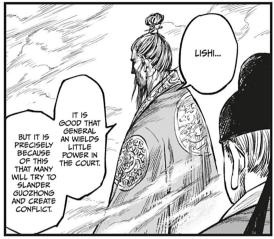




























* DONGSHOUJIANG CITY: A FORTRESS BUILT ALONG THE BORDER DURING THE TANG DYNASTY TO DEFEND AGAINST THE TURKIC PEOPLE. IT IS SITUATED IN PRESENT-DAY HOHHOT CITY, IN INNER MONGOLIA.































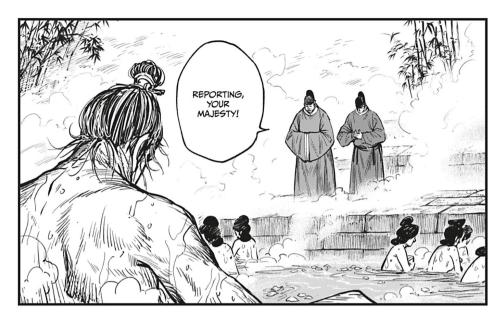








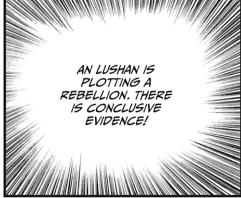


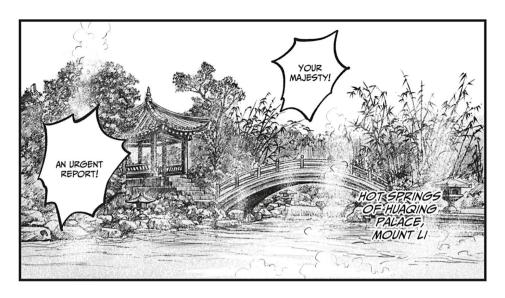


















IN THE ELEVENTH MONTH OF THE FOURTEENTH YEAR OF TIANBAO IN THE TANG DYNASTY, THE FIRST YEAR OF THE SEXAGENARY CYCLE, WITH A FORCE OF ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND TANG SOLDIERS AND TONGLUO, XI, KHITAN, AND SHIWEI MEN, CLAIMED TO TOTAL TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND TROOPS, LUSHAN REVOLTED IN FANYANG.

- COMPREHENSIVE MIRROR FOR AID IN GOVERNMENT, CHAPTER 217

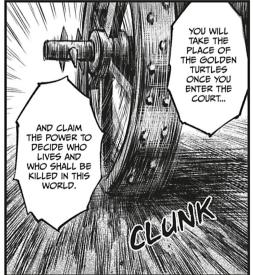




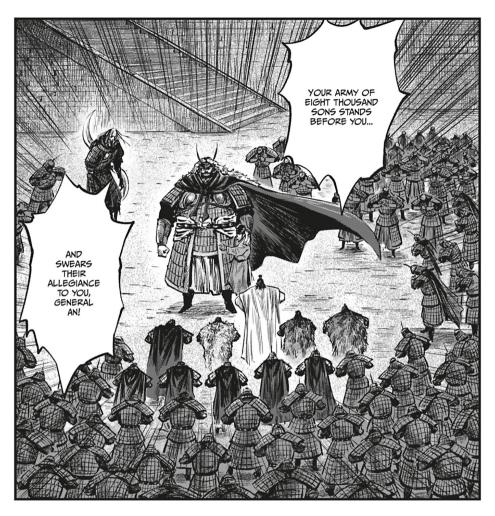


















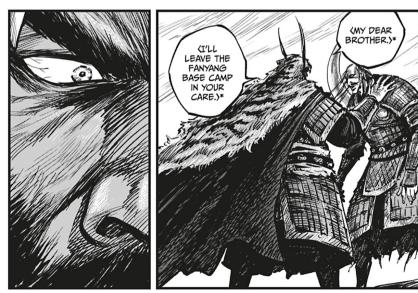
























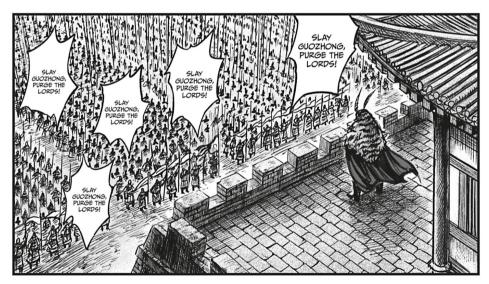


















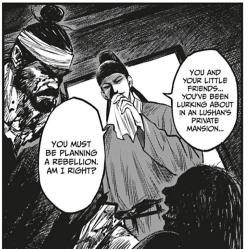






















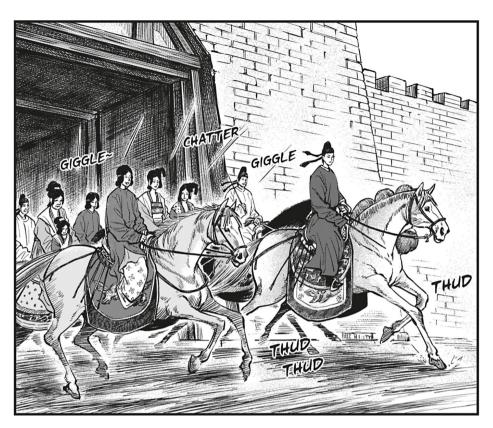


* ZUOZANG TREASURY: THE TANG DYNASTY'S TREASURY.





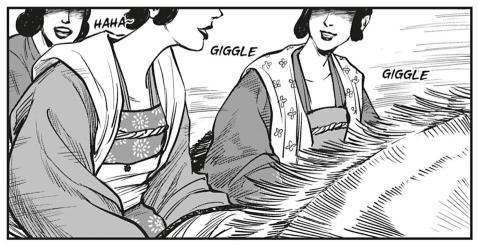














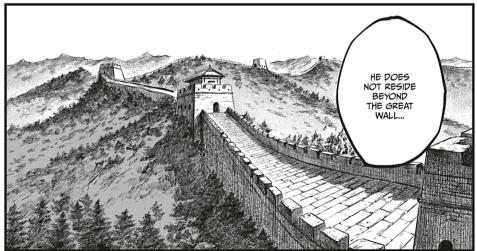


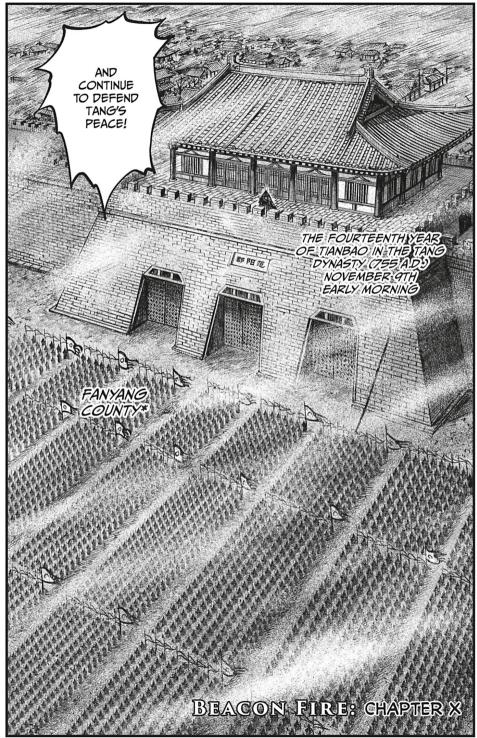










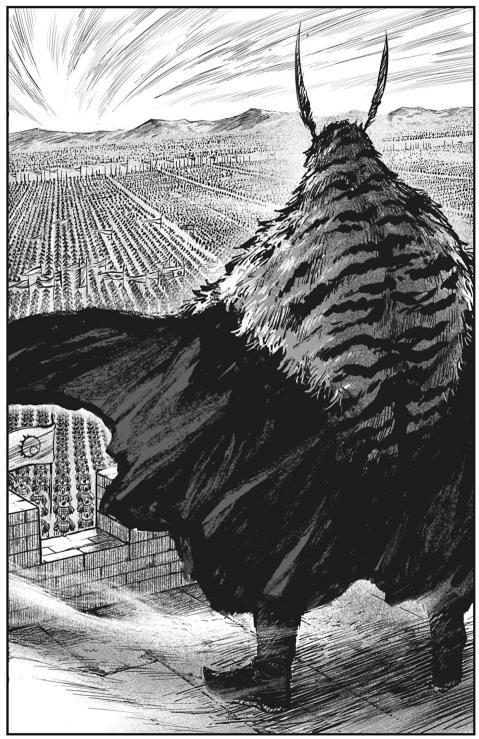




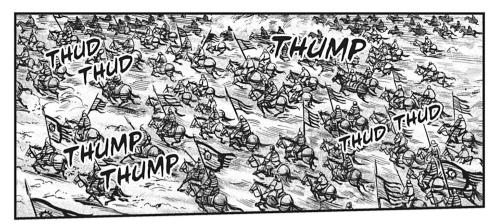










































































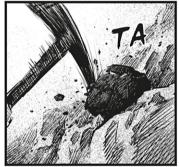








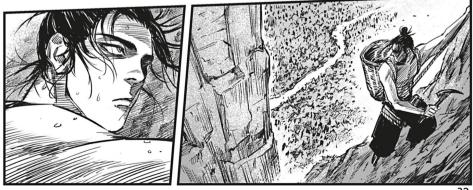
































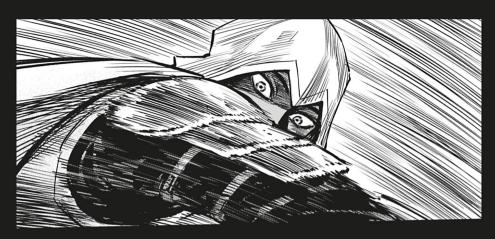






















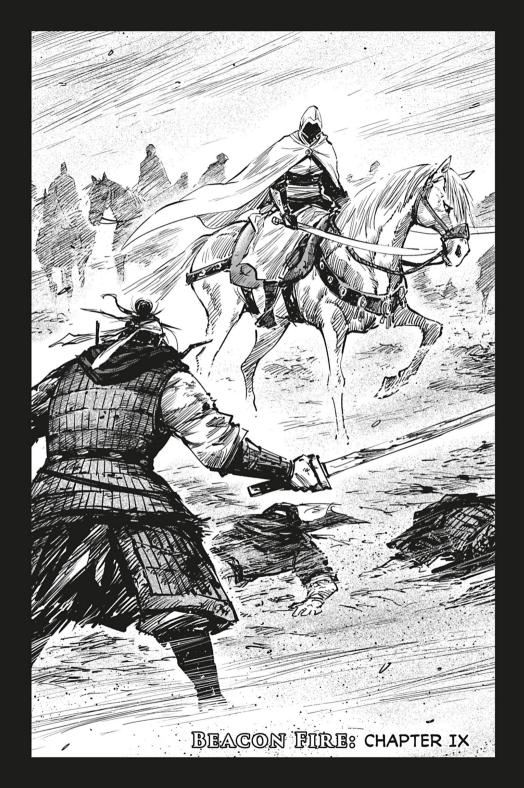




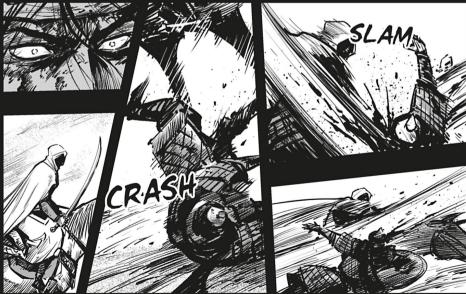


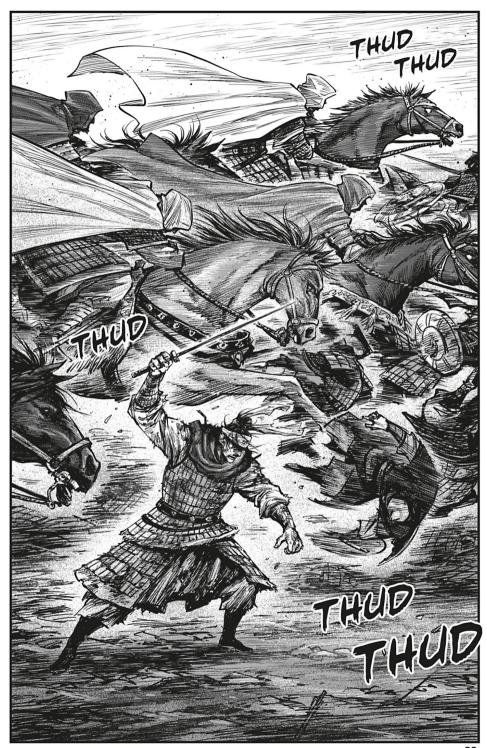
BLOOD SHEDDER CALIPH: THE CHIEF RULER OF ARABIA HOLDS THE TITLE OF "CALIPH". THE FIRST CALIPH, ABUL AL-ABBAS AFFAH, RULED WITH AN IRON FIST AND WAS TERMED THE BLOOD SHEDDER.





















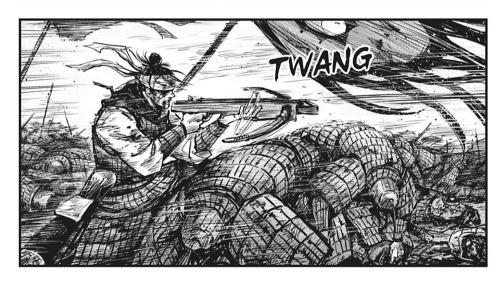








































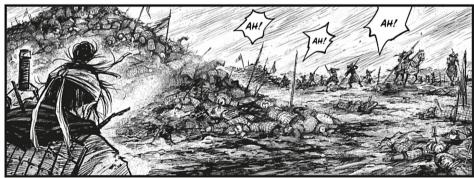




* ARABIC

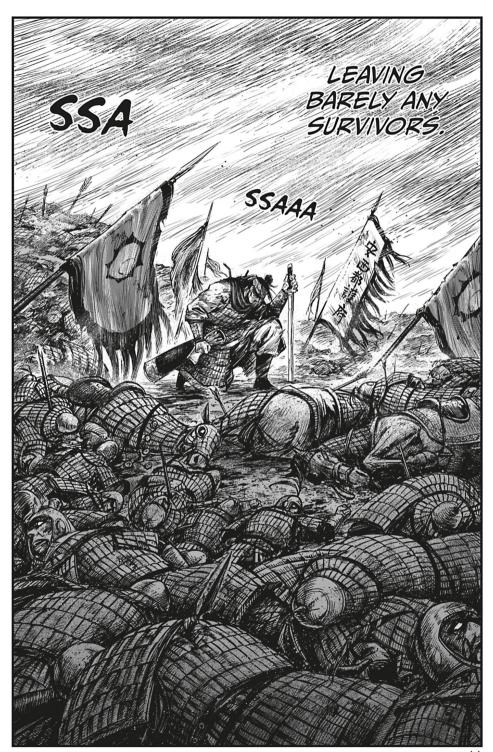


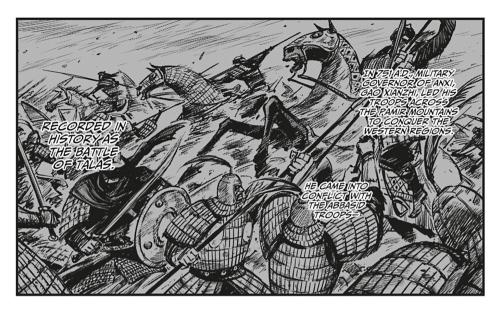






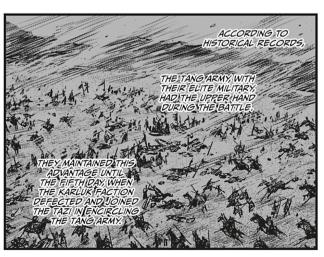




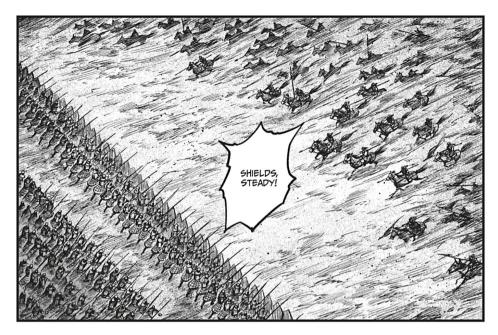




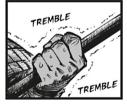








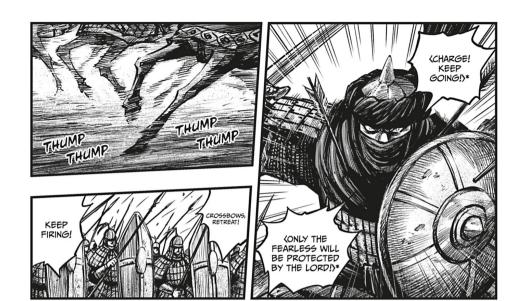


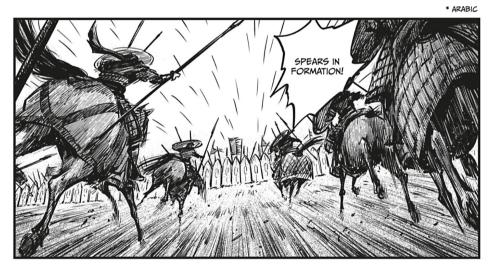




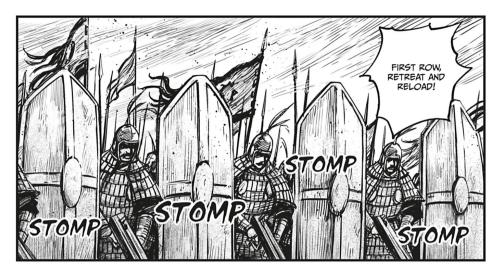












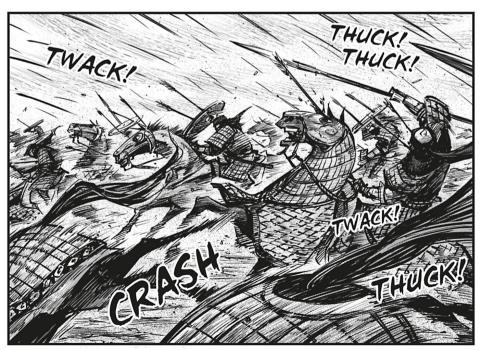






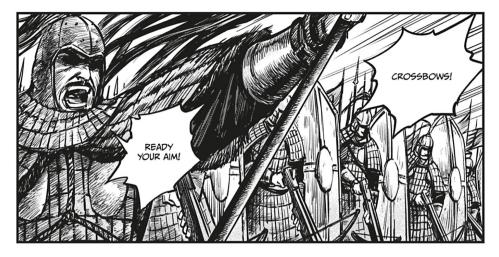








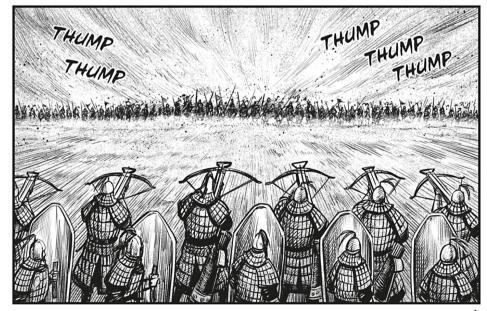












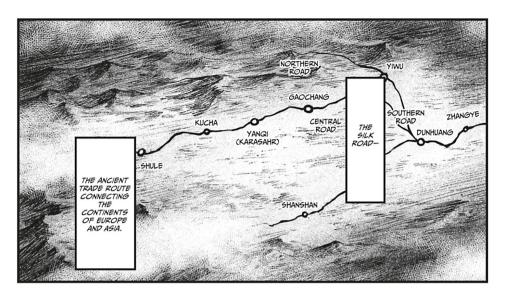
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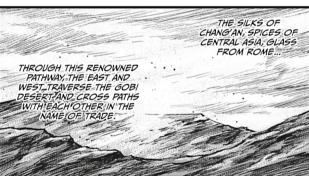
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751 A.D. THE WESTERN REGIONS, TALAS







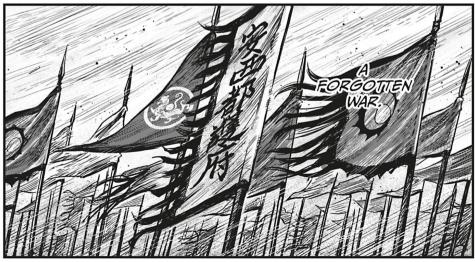




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